

U-2 POWERS ACCUSES WIFE**'Even the Russians Got Worried...'**

MCLEDGEVILLE, Ga., Jan. 16 (UPI) — Former U-2 pilot Francis Gary Powers told a divorce court yesterday that his wife was an habitual drunk who sent him "cheap" magazines in a Soviet prison and neglected him to such an extent that "even the Russians got worried."

Attractive Barbara Gay Powers countered that imprisonment had left her husband a changed man, "void of all feeling" except bitterness toward her. "All he wants is his money," she sobbed.

A jury of 12 married men was expected to receive the case today and decide whether the 33-year-old pilot, whose abortive reconnaissance flight over Russia in 1960 sparked an international controversy, must pay his wife alimony.

Mr. Powers, 33, petitioned for divorce from his wife of eight years last August, seven months after his release from prison in exchange for Soviet spy Rudolph Abel. He had served 20 months of a 10-year sentence for espionage. Mr. Powers charged his wife was

habitually drunk and abusive. Mr. Powers, 28, filed a countersuit, charging that Mr. Powers failed to treat her like an average American housewife.

Mr. Powers said he went as long as 45 days without a letter from his wife while in prison. She was so delinquent in her writing, he said, that it became a matter of concern to both American and Russian officials in Moscow.

He said he received several packages from his wife but some contained such "cheap magazines" that he had to request other reading matter.

"The only person who ever mistreated me while I was in prison in Russia was my wife, Barbara," Mr. Powers said.

Mrs. Powers testified that she married Mr. Powers "for companionship, love and children but I didn't have an opportunity for that." She said she was unaware at the time that Powers had been assigned by the Central Intelligence Agency to make U-2 flights over Russia.

Mr. Powers is now a test pilot for Lockheed Aircraft Corp. in California.